

Denise Hill, Candace Parker, Megan Martin, Meredith Daniels, Christina Sahly, Molly Glanz, and Tara Hester.

Mr. Speaker, all of Illinois, and especially the city of Naperville, are proud of the girls' accomplishments, none of which is more impressive than posting an unblemished 35-0 record. This was the first perfect season for a Class AA women's championship team since 1998.

As many people in Illinois and across the Nation know, not so long ago the women Redhawks would not have had the chance to even lace up their sneakers. Thanks to the passage of title IX in 1972, young women and girls throughout America have come to benefit from the opportunities enjoyed for so long by young men and boys in America. It has enabled young women to participate in school sports, to learn the value of teamwork and competition, and to gain the self-confidence and skills that are so valuable in business and in other future careers.

Congratulations, Redhawks; and let me say, look out Redhawks opponents in 2004. Coach Nussbaum returns four starters, including the top junior player in the Nation, Candace Parker.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 6 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: "Lord, my refuge, my stronghold, my God in whom I trust."

When the winds of distress swirl around us, Lord, or unsettling times demand determination, Members of Congress, as any of us in America, want to take refuge. We may seek refuge in consultation as we look for support from others. Or we may be tempted to blame others for our troubles. Rather than take refuge in excuses or in the shadow of others, we need to stand resolutely ourselves, claim You, O Lord, as our sure refuge, and act responding to Your guidance.

When as a Nation or as individuals our security is shaken or our vulnerability revealed, we may, like Adam, want to hide. We may be tempted to think the firing power of weapons is our greatest strength, or the power of money will protect us. But in all the battles that are fought, You alone, O God, are a lasting stronghold.

So it is: in God we trust now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TURNER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. TURNER of Ohio led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ALTERNATIVE TO WAR

(Ms. WOOLSEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, last week a Defense Department spokesman announced that the United States is preparing to use landmines in Iraq. What an insult to the 146 countries brave enough to sign the Landmine Treaty which forbids the use of landmines. Embarrassingly, the United States is not a signatory.

Landmines do not know the difference between a soldier and a child.

Instead of killing children, we need to educate them. Instead of seeding Iraq with explosives, we should plant seeds of peace and well-being worldwide. Instead of using landmines in Iraq, we should be cleaning up landmines in Afghanistan.

Madam Speaker, the use of landmines is a step in the wrong direction. There are alternatives to war. Our problem is we have not prepared for them.

HONORING PRISON FELLOWSHIP

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, in the 1990s we realized that tough sentencing for criminals reduced crime rates. But this year alone, roughly 600,000 of those prisoners will be released; and statistics show that over 60 percent of these parolees will return to prison within 2 years.

To combat this trend, Prison Fellowship, a faith-based group, was formed and began to offer job-skills training, drug treatment, and the opportunity to cultivate character and faith. The results have been dramatic. Just 8 percent of their participants have returned to prison within 2 years. It simply produces productive rehabilitated members of society.

But the forces of the left seek to undo the progress by suing Prison Fel-

lowship. Americans United for the Separation of Church and State have sued them because of this. The left needs to learn that faith-based programs work many times better than government programs. They are seeking to build a more healthy society.

UNANIMOUS SUPPORT FOR U.S. TROOPS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

(Mr. ISRAEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, over the weekend I joined with hundreds of Marines in my congressional district as they prepared to deploy to the Middle East. Many of their families asked me whether the American people will support them. They asked whether the polls that they read about reflect a lack of support for those who may be asked to fight for our freedoms in the Middle East.

Madam Speaker, I support the use of force, but I understand that there is a diversity of opinion on this issue. In America we have the right to agree, the right to disagree, the right to remain silent; but let no one believe for a moment that there is any division with respect to supporting our troops. Republicans and Democrats will go and fight for our freedoms abroad and Republicans and Democrats will stand by them at home. We cannot forget our support of those brave men and women, and I know that this Congress will not forget that for a moment.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

RECOGNIZING THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE ADMISSION OF OHIO INTO THE UNION AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF OHIO RESIDENTS TO THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 122) recognizing the bicentennial of the admission of Ohio into the Union and the contributions of Ohio residents to the economic, social, and cultural development of the United States.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 122

Whereas Ohio residents will celebrate 2003 as the 200th anniversary of Ohio's admission into the Union;

Whereas Ohio was the 17th State to be admitted to the Union and was the first State to be created from the Northwest Territory;

Whereas "Ohio" is derived from the Iroquois word meaning "great river", referring to the Ohio River which forms the southern boundary and a portion of the eastern boundary of the State;

Whereas Ohio was the site of battles of the American Indian Wars, French and Indian Wars, Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, and the Civil War;

Whereas in the nineteenth century, Ohio, a free state, was an important stop on the Underground Railroad as a destination for more than 100,000 individuals escaping slavery and seeking freedom;

Whereas Ohio, which is known as "The Mother of Presidents", has given eight United States presidents to the Nation, including William Henry Harrison, Ulysses S. Grant, Rutherford B. Hayes, James A. Garfield, Benjamin Harrison, William McKinley, William H. Taft, and Warren G. Harding;

Whereas Ohio inventors, including Thomas Edison (incandescent light bulb), Orville and Wilbur Wright (first in flight), Henry Timken (roller bearings), Charles Kettering (automobile starter), Charles Goodyear (process of vulcanizing rubber), Garrett Morgan (traffic light), and Roy Plunkett (Teflon), created the basis for modern living as we know it;

Whereas Ohio, which is also known as "The Birthplace of Aviation", has been home to 24 astronauts, including John Glenn, Neil Armstrong, and Judith Resnik;

Whereas Ohio has a rich sports tradition and has produced many sports legends, including Annie Oakley, Jesse Owens, Cy Young, Jack Nicklaus, and Nancy Lopez;

Whereas Ohio has produced many distinguished writers including Harriet Beecher Stowe, Paul Laurence Dunbar, Toni Morrison, and James Thurber;

Whereas the agriculture and agribusiness industry is and has long been the number one industry in Ohio, contributing \$73,000,000,000 annually to Ohio's economy and employing 1 in 6 Ohioans, and that industry's tens of thousands of Ohio farmers and 14,000,000 acres of Ohio farmland feed the people of the State, the Nation, and the world;

Whereas the enduring manufacturing economy of Ohio is responsible for 1/4 of Ohio's Gross State Product, provides over one million well-paying jobs to Ohioans, exports \$26,000,000,000 in products to 196 countries, and provides over \$1,000,000,000 in tax revenues to local schools and governments;

Whereas Ohio is home to over 140 colleges and universities which have made significant contributions to the intellectual life of the State and Nation, and continued investment in education is Ohio's promise to future economic development in the "knowledge economy" of the 21st century;

Whereas, from its inception, Ohio has been a prime destination for immigrants, and the rich cultural and ethnic heritage that has been interwoven into the spirit of the people of Ohio and that enriches Ohio's communities and the quality of life of its residents is both a tribute to, and representative of, the Nation's diversity;

Whereas Ohio began celebrations commemorating its bicentennial on March 1, 2003, in Chillicothe, the first capital of Ohio; and

Whereas the bicentennial celebrations will include Inventing Flight in Dayton (celebrating the centennial of flight), Tall Ships on Lake Erie, Tall Stacks on the Ohio River, Red, White, and Bicentennial Boom in Columbus, and the Bicentennial Wagon Train across the State: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives recognizes—

(1) the bicentennial of the admission of Ohio into the Union;

(2) the residents of Ohio for their important contributions to the economic, social, and cultural development of the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TURNER) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TURNER).

□ 1415

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 122, the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, House Resolution 122 introduced by my distinguished colleague from my home State of Ohio (Mr. REGULA) recognizes the bicentennial of Ohio into the Union and the contribution to the economic, social, and cultural development of the United States.

The Iroquois Indians were the first to recognize the significance of the vast region of the Northwest Territory. Ohio is named after the Iroquois word meaning "great river."

The 2003 Ohio bicentennial celebration allows us the time to recognize the many contributions Ohioans have made to our country and the world. Because of its former canals, navigable rivers, railroads and roads, we are known as the Gateway State that provided for western migration. Our interstate transportation system is still one of the most used in the country, and Ohio is a powerhouse in the American economy.

We are proud of our native sons and daughters who have contributed to our great country. Ohio calls herself the mother of Presidents, Ulysses S. Grant, Rutherford B. Hayes, James A. Garfield, Benjamin Harrison, William McKinley, William Howard Taft, and Warren Harding all native Ohioans.

As a native Daytonian I am most proud of Ohio's aviation heritage. Dayton's Wright-Patterson Air Force Base is the largest air force base in the world and is the place where Orville and Wilbur Wright perfected flight. Annually, the Air Force Museum at the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base hosts a million visitors. In fact, Ohio boasts four significant aviation firsts: Orville and Wilbur Wright, first in powered flight; John Glenn, first man to orbit the Earth; Neil Armstrong, first man on the Moon; Judith Resnik, the first woman in space.

Ohio has been the home to 24 astronauts. In fact, Ohio's aviation history is recognized on the U.S. quarter for Ohio in the U.S. Mint series. But these

memorable facts are only the beginning of the Ohio's story.

This year of 2003, the 200th birthday celebration of Ohio's statehood, allows us a full year to reflect on our heritage and to remind ourselves of how fortunate we are to be proud Americans. Therefore, I urge all Members to support the adoption of House Resolution 122.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join in support of this resolution recognizing the bicentennial of the admission of Ohio into the Union and the contributions of Ohio residents to the economic, social, and cultural development of the United States.

Madam Speaker, this year the residents of Ohio will celebrate the 200th anniversary of their State's admission into the Union. They will celebrate the fact that Ohio inventors, including Thomas Edison, Orville and Wilbur Wright, Henry Timken, Charles Goodyear, Garrett Morgan, and Roy Plunkett, created the basis for modern living as we know it.

They will celebrate the fact that Ohio is the birthplace of aviation. It has been home to 24 astronauts, including John Glenn, Neil Armstrong and Judith Resnik. They will celebrate the many distinguished writers Ohio has produced like Harriet Beecher Stowe, Paul Laurence Dunbar, Toni Morrison, and James Thurber.

However, one of Ohio's most profound contributions to the economic, social, and cultural development in the United States is the intricate role it played in the Underground Railroad.

Ohio's governing document, The Ordinance of 1787, states that "There shall be neither slave nor involuntary servitude in the said territory, otherwise than in the punishment of crime." The slavery that did occur in Ohio was in the outermost portions of the territory that did not become part of the State of Ohio.

The Ordinance of 1787 not only attracted those fleeing the perils of slavery to Ohio, but also attracted various groups whose ideology resonated with the State's anti-slavery sentiment. Quakers, Baptists, Methodists, and Presbyterians were among the groups who found themselves drawn to Ohio due to their opposition to slavery.

The Underground Railroad consisted of stations, places where runaways could hide, eat, and take refuge during the day. It was not a single route. It was a complex web of main and branch routes. Essential to navigating the Railroad were the conductors who served as guides to those travelers making their way to freedom. Ohio was one of the most heavily traveled States along the escape routes of slaves.

In addition to being a reasonable distance from north to south, Ohio provided access to Canada via Lake Erie.

Slaves were able to take advantage of Ohio's first commercial railroad. Many of the staff on the commercial railroads also served as conductors on the Underground Railroad.

Ohio and its citizens have carved out a rich place in American history, well deserving of our recognition. Therefore, I am indeed proud and pleased to join with my colleagues in celebrating the development of this great State as a part of the Union which we know as the United States of America.

Madam Speaker, I do not have any further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to my colleague, the gentleman from the State of Ohio (Mr. REGULA), the distinguished sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. REGULA. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Madam Speaker, I first want to compliment the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) on an excellent summary of the role of the State of Ohio in dealing with the issue of slavery. We are building a museum in Cincinnati, Ohio, which was the key spot on the Underground Railroad. And as you travel throughout Ohio, you will find a number of communities that will have a marker saying that this community was one of the stations along the way. So I think it is great that the gentleman gave the Members and the audience that watches C-SPAN an understanding of Ohio's role, and it is a proud one, in dealing with these issues.

Ohio is popularly known as "The Mother of Presidents." Our good friends from the State of Virginia like to take issue with that, but we claim eight in our State, one of whom served the 16th District of Ohio in Congress. That would be President William McKinley, who was also chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means. And if you go next door to the headquarters of the Committee on Appropriations, you will see a portrait of James Garfield, who also served in Congress and as chairman of Appropriations.

Madam Speaker, I think our colleague from Illinois has touched on a number of the important people that are part of Ohio history. I do not know if he mentioned Thomas Alva Edison, who started what is today a great industry in terms of providing electricity, and certainly his contributions in progress and industry were a result of hard work. Thomas Edison used to say, "Genius was 1 percent inspiration and 99 percent perspiration."

The gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) mentioned John Glenn and his role. We are all very familiar with that. And so I think we in Ohio can take great pride in the part that our State has played in the history of this Nation's space program.

We have had a number of people in science who developed different things

that are important to all of us. The Invention Place is in Akron, Ohio. It tells the story of inventors in the United States. It is a hall of fame for inventors.

We have, of course, in Canton, Ohio the Football Hall of Fame. Many people are very familiar with that. And I would also mention that we have the National First Ladies Historic Site. It is the newest unit in the Park Service that tells how First Ladies have made a very great impact on the history of our Nation.

These are all things that give us pride in the State of Ohio and, since I did mention McKinley, I would add that as President of the United States he was perhaps the first one to recognize that the United States was no longer an insular nation, and he became a champion of international trade. He championed the Open Door Policy to China and many other issues involving trade. And of course as a result of Spanish-American War, the United States became a world player. And we know today that the world looks to, at least part of it, in this day and age, looks to the United States for leadership. But William McKinley made a very great impact on the path this Nation has taken from originally being very protectionist, very insular to that of a Nation that does set the challenge to other nations to follow suit.

I would urge all of my colleagues to support this resolution. It recognizes that Ohio has been a State since 1803 and as such has made many great contributions to our Nation's history.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to my colleague, the gentleman from the State of Ohio (Mr. GILLMOR).

(Mr. GILLMOR asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILLMOR. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of this resolution honoring the bicentennial of the State of Ohio.

Madam Speaker, I want to commend my colleague from Dayton (Mr. TURNER) for sponsoring this resolution which pays tribute to the contributions of Ohioans to the economic, the social, and the cultural welfare of this country. I think it could objectively be said that no State surpasses Ohio in terms of the contribution that our people have made to the development of this country.

It is truly a diverse State from the Ohio River in the South to Lake Erie on the North. It has big businesses, small businesses, agricultural, recreational destinations.

The Buckeye State has developed also one of the finest educational systems in the United States. It is home to over 140 respective institutions with at least one college university or branch campus within 25 miles of every Ohioan.

It is home to a number of unique and extraordinary people, fast, first, most and best in the country.

Our State has given the United States eight presidents, one of whom was from my district, Rutherford B. Hayes; 24 astronauts, including the STS-70 All Ohio Shuttle Mission; and a plethora of sports legends, statesmen, distinguished writers, and successful aviators, Orville and Wilbur Wright, just to name two. Also, Neil Armstrong from Ohio was the first man to walk on the Moon.

Fellow northwest Ohioan, Thomas Edison, who was born in my district, would invent the light bulb, the phonograph, the stock ticker, and the movie projector. The combination of Mr. Edison and the Wright brothers truly makes Ohio the land of light and flight.

Ohio also holds claim to having America's first shopping center, its first kindergarten, its first chewing gum patent, its first professional baseball team, and the first hot dog.

Van Wert, which is located in my district, was the site of the first public library in this country. A few of the firsts in my district, and this could be repeated in districts all across Ohio: In my district the Whirlpool Corporation in Clyde, Ohio, manufactures more clothes washing machines than any plant in the world. The Heinz plant in Fremont produces more ketchup than any place in the world. It produces enough ketchup to fill 3.2 million 14-ounce bottles every single day.

□ 1430

The R.R. Donnelley plant prints the most Bibles in the world. Arm and Hammer Baking Soda, in my hometown of Oldport, produces more baking soda than anywhere else, and we also have in my district in Tiffin, the world's largest manufacturer of porcelain toilet fixtures used by people throughout America.

Let me say that we are proud of our State. We are proud of what Ohioans have accomplished in history, and I would urge support for the resolution and say, happy birthday, Ohio.

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. HOBSON).

Mr. HOBSON. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to be here today. I want to thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. REGULA), my colleague from Navarre, for introducing this and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TURNER), my colleague from Dayton, who is a brand-new Member from the State of Ohio. This is the first bill I think he has done on the floor of the House, and it is always quite an experience for any of us.

I want to take this time to talk a little bit about the Buckeye State, the bicentennial of our great State. This event was especially significant to us in central Ohio because Chillicothe was one of the primary sites for the celebration since it was the location of the State constitutional convention and the first State capital.

In the 200 years since statehood, Ohio has been the birthplace of people who have literally changed the world, from Presidents to the Wright brothers to Neil Armstrong's first steps on the Moon.

The eight counties that make up Ohio's seventh district have produced Governors, U.S. Senators, some Congressmen, cabinet officials, military leaders, entertainers, and even saw the beginning of what became the 4-H clubs across the country out of Springfield, Ohio.

I know how much effort went into planning the many commemorative events for the 200th anniversary of the founding of our great State and the many different ways communities celebrated cross our heritage was a tribute to the diversity of our State. I think we have set a very high mark for future generations to top when the preparations begin for the 400th anniversary of the creation of Ohio in the year 2203.

Ohio is a wonderful area to represent. We have a great delegation, a great bipartisan delegation. We all work together for the benefits of the State. We are all Buckeyes, especially this year with Buckeyes at Ohio State being number one in the country, and we refer to ourselves as Buckeyes; and that is a tone that we have tried to set across the country as we talk to people about our great State and the Buckeye State.

Today, I just came back from Cincinnati where we talked about great waterways of the Midwest and the great waterway of Ohio, of the Ohio River, and of our northern coast which we call up in the Cleveland area, Toledo, all the way over to Pennsylvania. We are a great State. We have a great heritage and say happy birthday to the State of Ohio, and go, Bucks.

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Madam Speaker, as we celebrate 200th birthday of the great State of Ohio, I am proud to stand up here today to share with the American people why my home state of Ohio deserves a grand celebration and widespread recognition.

The name "Ohio" can be traced to the Native American word meaning "great" that was first used to describe the powerful river that marks our southern border. It was known as the Old Northwest at a time when Americans had no understanding of how vast our land truly was. This area drew independent and daring people of all walks of life who were in search of a new beginning. These pioneers picked up their life and settled on the beautiful river, fertile soil, rolling hills, and the lakes that felt like oceans.

There they founded a new state built on principles much unlike those in the other 16 states back in 1803. The State of Ohio would go on to lead the nation in public education by being the first to open its doors to women and African Americans. It would nurture some of the best American inventors, including the Wright Brothers, and boost eight of its citizens to the Presidency. Ohioans aspire to do great things and know no limits—just ask two of the world's most famous astronauts, Ohioans Neil Armstrong and Senator John Glenn.

Ohio has traditionally been a vanguard in the fight for opportunities and rights for women, and it recognized nationally for its leadership role in several major reform movements such as temperance, anti-slavery, and women's rights. Ohio played an important role in freeing the slaves, using the underground railroad to bring them to safety in the North. In fact, Ohio contributed more of its population to the Union Army than any other state.

Ohio Governor Bob Taft recently kicked off an eight month celebration of Ohio's 200th anniversary. These festivities allow all Ohioans to take part in understanding our state's history and marking it in their own special way.

I, along with my fellow Ohioans, am proud to salute our great state that has made an immeasurable contribution to the lives of all who know it as home, as well as our nation. Please join me in celebrating Ohio's Bicentennial to reflect on our state's proud heritage and abundant history. Happy Birthday, Ohio!

Mr. BOEHNER. Madam Speaker, I am privileged to join my friends from the Ohio delegation on the House floor today to mark yet another special occasion for our home state. Several weeks ago, we gathered here to celebrate and honor the Ohio State Buckeyes' college football national championship. And now we're here to mark yet another significant and historic event for the Buckeye State: Ohio's bicentennial.

Ohio's heritage is rich, and its importance to the nation is immeasurable. Consider these bits of trivia: Ohio played a vital role in the American Civil War. Our state contributed more of its population to the Union Army than any other state. Ohio is the home of 8 U.S. presidents. In fact, between the years 1840 and 1920, Ohio natives won 11 of 14 presidential elections. Ohio is home to legends in America's space program. Not only do Neil Armstrong and John Glenn call Ohio home, but the Buckeye State also is the home to twenty-two current astronauts. And finally, Ohio is the birthplace of aviation. The Wright Brothers called Ohio home and this year will be the focus of a celebration very close to my congressional district marking 100 years of flight.

Today, in Ohio schools, scores of students are poised to lead our state into its third century, and if the past two centuries are any indication, the best is yet to come.

Madam Speaker, it has been an honor to represent my friends and neighbors in Ohio on the local, state, and federal levels during my time in elected office. I wish them and all Ohioans across our state the very best today and in the years to come. May our next two hundred years be as prosperous and exciting as the last two hundred.

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 122, recognizing the bicentennial of the admission of Ohio into the Union and the contributions of Ohio residents to the economic, social and cultural development of the United States. I am proud to be a lifelong resident of the State of Ohio. Ohio, known as the Buckeye State, is the birthplace of aviation and home to eight United States presidents.

Ohio is home to the first astronaut John Glenn, and the great inventors Thomas Edison and Granville T. Woods. The first female physician, Elizabeth Blackwell is also an Ohio native.

Ohio was an integral part of the Underground Railroad. For many escaped slaves

Ohio would be the last stop on a long journey to Canada. Cincinnati is now home to the national Underground Railroad Freedom Center.

From humble roots in Ohio Dorothy Dandridge would establish herself as one of the greatest actresses in Hollywood, paving the way for a young girl from Bedford, Ohio, Halle Berry to become the first African American woman to win a Best Actress Academy Award. A native of Cincinnati, Ohio, Steven Spielberg revolutionized the movie industry with such movies as Jaws, E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial and Jurassic Park and Indiana Jones.

Olympic gold medalist Jesse Owens took his first steps in Ohio as well as famous golfer Jack Nicklaus. Paul Lawrence Dunbar, Toni Morrison and Huge Downs were famous Ohioans who mastered the power of the pen and became great contributors to literature. In addition, I would be remiss to not mention Garrett Augustus Morgan, who established the Cleveland Call and the invention of the nation's first patented traffic signal. History has been made in Ohio. Carl Stokes became the first African American mayor of a major city. His brother Louis Stokes would follow to make history as the first African American Congressman from Ohio, paving the way for me to stand before you today as the first African American Congresswoman from the State of Ohio. These great Ohioans and great Americans have helped to shape the fabric of this country. Through this celebration, we pay homage to their lives and legacies. I am honored to speak on behalf of the citizens of the 11th Congressional District of Ohio as we celebrate this Ohio bicentennial.

Mr. OXLEY. Madam Speaker, I'm proud to join my Buckeye colleagues in celebrating the 200th anniversary of the Great State of Ohio. My thanks to the dean of our delegation, Mr. Regula, for introducing this resolution.

It's my great privilege to represent Ohio's Fourth Congressional District, a widespread and diverse region steeped in tradition that has contributed much to the rich history of our state.

Some three decades ago, my hometown of Findlay in Hancock County was honored by Congress with the designation "Flag City, USA." Nearby Arlington, Ohio, enjoys the title of "Flag Village, USA." The discovery of oil in 1886 contributed tremendously to the county's growth; Findlay is home to the headquarters of Marathon Ashland Petroleum, an oil refining and marketing leader to this day. It was about the Blanchard River—than called Mill Stream—that Hancock County's Tell Taylor reminisced in his 1908 song "Down by the Old Mill Stream."

Hardin County is known as the home of Jacob Parrot, the nation's first Congressional Medal of Honor winner in 1863. Employees at Ada's Wilson Football Factory hand-make well over one million footballs per year, providing the NFL's official game balls since 1941.

The Lima Army Tank Plant in Allen County has played a vital role in our nation's defense since the Second World War, when its fore-runner, the Lima Tank Depot, processed more than 100,000 combat vehicles for shipment overseas. The tank plant's contributions continue in this new century, with ongoing work on the new Stryker light armored vehicle and a new \$32 million Abrams tank upgrade program.

Logan County is famous not only for the nation's shortest street (20-foot-long McKinley

Street), but also the first concrete street in America. George Wells Bartholomew, Jr., constructed this street in 1891, posting a personal bond of \$5,000 to guarantee that the pavement would last for five years. That street carries local traffic to this day, and was declared a National Historical Civil Engineering Landmark in 1976.

Wyandot County's Old Mission Church is the oldest Methodist mission in the United States. Completed in 1824, the Church sits on the grounds of the Wyandotte Cemetery, a burial ground for the last Native American tribe in Ohio. The Basilica, and National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation in Carey draws hundreds of thousands of pilgrims on a yearly basis.

Marion County is the site of the Warren G. Harding Home and Memorial, honoring our nation's 29th president. Marion, home of the Popcorn Festival and the Wyandot Popcorn Museum, also contains one of four branch campuses of The Ohio State University, 2003's national football champions. I am privileged to represent a total of three of OSU's branches.

Citizens of Shelby County take great pride in their magnificent 120-year-old county courthouse, which was recently added to the list of "Great American Public Places." Sidney, the county seat, developed a reputation as a railroad and canal center early in our state's history.

Residents of Mount Gilead in Morrow County rightfully take pride in the "victory shaft" that dominates the village's North Square. This stone monument was a 1919 gift from the federal government in recognition of Morrow County's support of World War I—its citizens purchased more war bonds per capita than any other county in the U.S.

Auglaize County is the birthplace of space pioneer Neil Armstrong and home to the Neil Armstrong Air and Space Museum. The county seat of Wapakoneta is a focal point of Native American history, serving as capital of the Shawnee nation in the late 1700s and early 1800s. Chief Blackhoof organized the migration of the Shawnee to Kansas in 1826, and afterward returned to Wapakoneta, where he died in 1831.

The Mansfield Blockhouse in Richland County is the county's oldest structure, built in the public square to protect early settlers from Indian attacks during the War of 1812. The medieval castle design of the Ohio State Reformatory, constructed in the late 1880s, landed it on the National Register of Historic Places in 1987, and has been featured in three major motion pictures. Mansfield was also the home of John Sherman, longtime House and Senate member from Ohio, Secretary of State, Secretary of the Treasury, Republican presidential candidate, and father of the Sherman Antitrust Act. Malabar Farm in Lucas is the former home and workshop of Pulitzer Prize winner Louis Bromfield, drawing thousands of visitors each year.

A bronze statue in the town square in Urbana memorializes the 3,235 Champaign County men who fought in the Civil War, 578 of whom did not survive the fighting. Urbana University's Johnny Appleseed Educational Center houses the largest collection of Johnny Appleseed memorabilia and information known to exist. St. Paris, in western Champaign County, was a leading carriage-making center for much of the late Nineteenth Century.

Madam Speaker, I'm proud that citizens in each of the 11 counties I'm honored to represent are taking an active role in celebrating not only our state's bicentennial, but also the rich and vibrant histories of their own communities. Their dedication and devotion ensure that our state's future remains bright for the next 200 years and beyond.

I salute the efforts of all who have made this bicentennial year a great one for our great state.

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the Bicentennial of the State of Ohio's admission to the Union. I rise to honor the contributions of Ohio residents to the development of the United States.

On March 1, 1803, Ohio became the 17th state to enter the Union. From the invention of traffic lights and Teflon to the famous first flight at Kitty Hawk, Ohio has been the birthplace of many important advances in United States history. The nation's first interracial co-educational college, Oberlin College, was founded in 1833 in Oberlin, Ohio. The storied history of this great state is, perhaps, best demonstrated through the accomplishments of its amazing residents.

Ohio residents have contributed to many different aspects of United States history and culture. Inventors Thomas Edison and Charles Goodyear hail from Ohio. Well-known authors Harriet Beecher Stowe and Toni Morrison, as well as, poet laureate Paul Laurence Dunbar also come from Ohio. Ohio also has the distinction of producing more Presidents than any other state in the Union. Legendary comedians Bob Hope and Phyllis Diller, who have inspired millions to laugh, hail from Ohio.

Other noteworthy Ohioans include Doris Day, Clark Gable, Annie Oakley and Neil Armstrong. Ohio's contributions have not only been limited to academic and artistic pursuits. Many well-known athletes hail from Ohio also. World-renowned golfers Nancy Lopez and Jack Nicklaus are both from Ohio. African American track star Jesse Owens, who won four gold medals during the 1936 Olympics, grew up in Cleveland and graduated from Ohio State University.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the Bicentennial of the admission of Ohio in to the Union, a state whose contributions to this great country cannot be overlooked.

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, the people of Ohio are commemorating Ohio's 200th Birthday on March 1, 2003; and

Whereas, they will be celebrating the Bicentennial in Chillicothe, the original capital of the great state of Ohio; and

Whereas, the residents of Ohio have molded a strong tradition of family values and a commitment to a high standard of living for Two-Hundred Years; and

Whereas, Ohio, since its inception, has developed into a growing and prosperous community dedicated to its past and future generations;

Therefore, I join with the residents of the 18th Congressional District and all of Ohio in celebrating the Ohio Bicentennial.

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I have no other speakers, and I urge adoption of this measure.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). The question is on the mo-

tion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. TURNER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 122.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING IMPROVED FIRE SAFETY IN NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 85) expressing the sense of the Congress with regard to the need for improved fire safety in nonresidential buildings in the aftermath of the tragic fire on February 20, 2003, at a nightclub in West Warwick, Rhode Island.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 85

Whereas, on the night of February 20, 2003, a pyrotechnic display ignited a massive fire at The Station nightclub in West Warwick, Rhode Island;

Whereas 99 people have died as a result of the fire and an additional 186 people were injured in the fire, many of whom remain hospitalized as of the date of the submission of this resolution with life-threatening burns and other injuries;

Whereas the victims of the fire were residents of Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and several other States;

Whereas the firefighters, police officers (particularly officers of the West Warwick Police Department who were the first to arrive on the scene), and medical personnel who responded to the fire performed heroically under horrific circumstances, and they risked their own lives to save many of the injured;

Whereas, at hospitals in Rhode Island and Massachusetts, doctors, nurses, hospital staff, mental health professionals, and other health care workers toiled through the night and in the following days to care for the injured, and they continue to provide world-class care to victims of the fire who remain hospitalized;

Whereas hospital care for victims of the fire was provided at Rhode Island Hospital, Kent County Hospital, South County Hospital, Fatima Hospital, Massachusetts General Hospital, Miriam Hospital, Roger Williams Hospital, Landmark Hospital, University of Massachusetts/Worcester Hospital, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Westerly Hospital, Shriners Hospital, St. Luke's Hospital, Memorial Hospital, Charlton Hospital, and Newport Hospital;

Whereas the local Red Cross, with 10 paid staff and over 400 dedicated volunteers, has played a critical role in offering comfort to the families of victims and coordinating services;

Whereas State and local officials have responded to the fire and its aftermath quickly, effectively, and compassionately, and the people of Rhode Island and the Nation are grateful for their efforts;